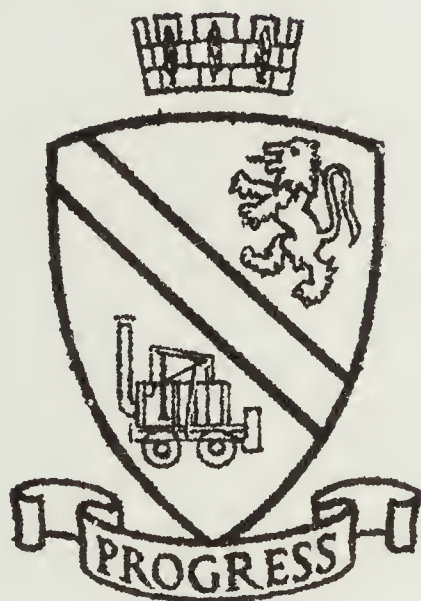


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HETTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1957





HETTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Health Department,
Hetton House,
Hetton-le-Hole

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my seventeenth Annual Report on the Vital Statistics, Sanitary Conditions and Health of the District, being for the year 1957. The report of the Chief Public Health Inspector for that year is included therein. I would tender my sincere apologies for the delay in the issue of the report.

Birth Rate

The birth rate for the Hetton Urban Area was 18.05 an appreciable rise from the preceding year and comparing favourably with the birth rate of 16.1 for England and Wales.

Death Rate

The Death rate at 9.4 showed a considerable drop from the comparable figure in 1956 and was also appreciably lower than that for England and Wales which was 11.5.

Causes of Death

Heart Disease and Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System (the latter mainly cerebral haemorrhage) accounted for 45 deaths or 25.86 per cent. of the total deaths in 1957, of this total coronary disease (which is included) accounted for 27, or more than one half of the total deaths from this cause. Deaths of this nature are still taking a great toll throughout the country each year and although methods of treatment are improving, means of prevention seem much more difficult to attain.

Cancer - 33 deaths occurred from this cause during the year under review, this being 3 more than in 1956 but nevertheless is slightly below the average for the previous 10 years. Cancer is still one of the problem diseases. The Ministry of Health Circular published in May 1957, regarding the possible connection between Lung Cancer and cigarette smoking was discussed at an Area Meeting of County Medical Officers of Health and it was felt that the only really useful propaganda would be amongst school children. This has been my personal opinion for some time and I still feel that this is the only propaganda which will prove effective in the future.

Infectious Diseases

During 1957 some 356 cases of infectious diseases (this including all forms of tuberculosis) were notified as occurring in the Urban Area, this is a sharp increase on the figure for the preceding year which was 81.

Measles and Whooping Cough These two diseases accounted for the sharp rise in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, as during the year under review there were 241 cases of measles and 64 cases of whooping cough as compared with 4 measles and 33 whooping cough notified in 1956.

Tuberculosis 13 cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, 10 of these being of the pulmonary type and 3 of the non-pulmonary type. 2 of the pulmonary cases occurred in the 2-3 year age group and 4 in the 15-25 age group. It was not necessary during the year to take any action under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis) 1925, which related to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936, which empowered, if necessary, the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

Scarlet Fever Only one notification was received of this disease, this being the lowest ever recorded. The disease, however, now bears no semblance to the severe type which was widely spread in the early part of the century and which frequently left ear and kidney complications, in fact, hospitalisation is no longer considered necessary except in very exceptional circumstances and the quarantine of school

children contacts is being discontinued in most areas.

Diphtheria Following the trend of the last few years (there were 5 cases in 1956 and 2 in 1955) no case of Diphtheria was notified during the year under review, this no doubt being the effect of the immunisation campaign, but the importance of continued immunisation cannot be too strongly emphasised. Family doctors are in a position to combine this with preventative treatment against whooping cough, but this combined protection could not be offered to children who were immunised at the Child Welfare Centres during 1957.

Anterior Poliomyelitis (Infantile Paralysis) Notifications of this disease showed a sharp rise overpreceeding years, 9 cases being notified as against 1 in 1956 and 1 in 1955, 1 case was fatal. The vaccination programme to protect children against poliomyelitis was continued throughout the year as supplies of vaccine become more readily available.

Housing

The Council continue to make good progress with the implementation of the Five Years Slum Clearance Programme, 43 houses being completed and occupied during the year; of these 39 were on the Derwent Street Site being part of the development in connection with the Clearance and Compulsory Purchase Areas which were formed in the vicinity of Hornsey Terrace and which were confirmed by the Ministry in July, 1957. In addition a good number of isolated houses were dealt with by the making of individual orders, the majority of these being Closing Orders to ensure that the amenities of the adjoining houses were preserved as far as possible until comprehensive clearance takes place.

In pursuance of the Council's policy house building was carried out by Direct Labour and in addition a considerable amount of modernisation work was done to pre-war houses, with the exception of 12 bungalows at V ley View, Moorsley, and 4 bungalows at East Rainton, this work was complete by the end of the year, a total of 157 houses being modernised during 1957, these being in Cedar Crescent, The Poplars, Prospect Estate and Eppleton Estate.

There were 3 private houses completed during the year and a good number of owner-occupiers took advantage of the assistance available for carrying out improvement schemes.

Care of the Aged

The Hetton Urban District Old People's Welfare Committee, which was established under the auspices of the Council some years ago, safeguards the welfare of the aged people in the area. The Chief Public Health Inspector having acted as its Hon. Secretary since its inception. The Committee, which endeavours to be entirely self-supporting, continued to function during the year, their efforts resulting in the raising of quite a considerable amount of money which was put to good use by the voluntary workers who carried out excellent work in entertaining and more important still, visiting and overlooking the welfare of the old people.

This is my last Annual Report and I gladly take this opportunity of tendering my thanks to Councillors and colleagues on the staff for their kind assistance during my years of happy service with you.

Members of Council and Health Committee, 1957

Chairman of the Council - Councillor H. Prest, J.P.
Chairman of the Health Committee - Councillor J. Hudson, J.P.

Hetton Ward

Councillor Mrs. H. Ellison, J.P., 5 Dunelm Road, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor J. Ellison, 5 Dunelm Road, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor E. Kent, 11 Bedford Street, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor W. Lowery, 2 Co-operative Terrace, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor G. Metcalfe, 31 Deepdale Street, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor E. Whitfield, 53 Caroline Street, Hetton-le-Hole

Hetton Downs Ward

Councillor Mrs. C. Buckingham, 23 Fairy Street, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor G.W. Davidson, 49 Eskdale Street, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor L. Kelly, J.P., "Hillcroft", North Road, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor T. Lawson, 134 High Street, Easington Lane
Councillor A. Logan, B.E.M., 4 Surrey Street, Hetton-le-Hole
Councillor J.F. Watson, 3 Rutland Street, Hetton-le-Hole

Easington Lane Ward

Councillor W.H. Bainbridge, 79 Elemore Lane, Easington Lane
Councillor J. Hudson, J.P., 14 Tamar Street, Easington Lane
Councillor F. Noble, 7 Cedar Crescent, Easington Lane.
Councillor H. Ramshaw, 14 Sheriffs Moor Avenue, Easington Lane
Councillor Mrs. E. Smith, 26 Whitehill Road, Easington Lane
Councillor J. Telford, 2 Brickgarth, Easington Lane

Rainton and Moorsley Wards

Councillor W. Mallinson, 35 Lloyd Avenue, East Rainton
Councillor C.H. Nicholson, 11 Park Road, Sherburn Village.
Councillor H. Prest, J.P., 17 Moorsley Road, Low Moorsley.

HETTON URBAN DISTRICT

Area in acres - 4,527 acres

Registrar General's estimate of resident population - 18,420
mid 1957

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957) according to Rate
Books - 5,583

Rateable Value - £109,115

Sum represented by a penny rate - £400 2s. 0d.

Public Health Officers of the Authority

The Staff consists of :-

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH - Dr. L.A.M. Johnston. Whole time
conjoint appointment (see below). Degrees of B.Sc.,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (St. Andrews).

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR - Mr. H.J.S. Murray. Holds
Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the
Sanitary Inspector's Joint Examination Board, and
Certificate for the Inspection of Meat and Other
Foods. Also acts as Factory and Workshops Inspector
under the Shops Act.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR - Mr. J.R. Hall. Holds Certificate
of the Royal Sanitary Institute and the Sanitary
Inspector's Joint Examination Board, and Certificate
for the Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR - Mr. P.W. Richardson. Holds Testamur
of the Institute of Municipal Engineers.

The County Council on behalf of the Government
pay half the salaries of the Medical Officer and the
Public Health Inspectors.

The Medical Officer is also the Medical Officer of Health for Houghton-le-Spring and Washington Urban Districts, and Assistant County Medical Officer for Area No. 5

Health Services Administered by County Council
and Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food

The following Health Services are administered by the County Council as the responsible Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act.

Ambulance	Domestic Helps
Home Nursing	Health Visitors
Prophylactic measures	Child Welfare and Maternity
against Smallpox,	School Medical
Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria	Welfare of the Blind and
and Tuberculosis	Handicapped

The County Council are also responsible for the administration of Part II of the National Insurance Act, 1948.

FOOD AND DRUGS INSPECTORS. Are also appointed by and work under the directions of the County Council.

VETERINARY INSPECTORS. Are fully qualified men appointed by and working under the direction of the Ministry of Agriculture - being responsible for carrying out routine examination of the cow population throughout the County in order to maintain and raise the standard of the health of said cows.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Birth Rate

The nett number of live births (as corrected by the Registrar-General for outward and inward transfers) during 1957 was 327 as compared with 292 for 1956.

Sex and legitimacy classification are show thus :

	Total	Male	Female	Birth Rate per 1000
Live (Legitimate	319	170	149	)of the estimated
Births(Illegitimate	8	3	5	)population - 17.7

The Registrar-General states the Birth Rate per 1000 population in England and Wales (live births) was 16.1 for 1957

In order to compare the birth rate based on the Registrar-General's figures for England and Wales a comparability factor of 1.02 giving a birth rate for Hetton Urban District of 18.05 compared with 16.1 for England and Wales.

Still Births - During 1957 there were 5 still births in the district

	Total	Male	Female	giving a Rate of
Still (Legitimate	5	1	4	)15.06 per 1000 total
Births(Illegitimate	-	-	-	)(live and still) births

There is a still birth rate per 1,000 population of 0.27 in the district.

Deaths and Death Rate

After correction for outward and inward transfers, 174 residents of the Hetton Urban District died, being 89 males, and 85 females.

The death rate, therefore corrected for outward and inward transfers and including deaths from all causes and at all ages was 9.4 the population being estimated at 18,420. That for England and Wales was 11.5

In order to compare the death rate based on the Registrar-General's figures for England and Wales a comparability factor of 1.32 giving a death rate for Hetton Urban District of 12.4 compared with 11.5 for England and Wales.

Locally compiled and correct figures are as follows :-

During 1957 there were 113 deaths registered as having occurred within the district, being 57 males and 56 females. Of these 1 male did not normally reside in the area, therefore 56 males and 56 females having their permanent residence within the district died therein. 33 males and 29 females whose permanent residence was within the area died outside it. The total number of deaths, therefore, corrected for outward and inward transfers is 174, being 89 males and 85 females.

Total Deaths under Five Years (corrected locally)

During 1957, 9 children died under the age of five years. Therefore 5.17 per cent. of the total deaths was of deaths of children under five years of age.

The following table shows :

1. Births (a) males (b) females (c) total births (d) rate per 1000
2. Deaths (all ages) (a) males (b) females (c) total deaths (d) rate per 1000
3. Total increase of population

BIRTHS

DEATHS

Year	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1000	Males	Females	Total	Rate per 1000	Total Increase
1948	172	183	355	19.02	121	86	207	11.08	148
1949	180	158	338	17.95	116	97	213	11.31	125
1950	158	173	331	17.71	137	111	248	13.27	83
1951	147	167	314	17.08	139	117	256	12.84	58
1952	165	138	303	16.53	113	100	213	11.62	90
1953	137	152	289	15.7	114	105	219	11.9	70
1954	167	143	316	21.67	118	110	228	12.3	88
1955	168	150	318	17.25	109	79	188	10.2	130
1956	134	158	292	15.8	106	110	216	11.17	76
1957	173	154	327	17.7	89	85	174	9.4	153

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

There were no deaths among women from puerperal sepsis

Death Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births from

Other Puerperal Causes 0.00

Death Rate of Infants under One Year

8 children died during 1957 before attaining the age of one year, being 2 legitimate males, 5 legitimate females and 1 illegitimate female.

During 1956, 11 children died during this age period.

The following table shows the death rate of infants under one year of age according to the total number of live births and legitimacy for the years 1948-57

Year	All Infants per 1000 live births	Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live births	Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live births
1948	50.7	46.65	-
1949	35.5	36.25	90.90
1950	48.3	50.16	166.66
1951	38.22	39.09	-
1952	33.0	33.67	-
1953	24.2	25.08	-
1954	44.3	45.16	-
1955	22.01	22.22	-
1956	37.67	38.5	-
1957	24.4	21.9	125.0

The death rate of children under one year of age per 1000 live births in England and Wales for the year ending 1957 was 23.0

Of the 8 infants who died under one year of age the cause of death was in 1 case due to prematurity, giving a percentage of 12.5 due to this cause. 2 or 25.0 per cent of the total deaths under one year were due to pneumonia.

Since the total deaths from all causes and at all ages in the district was 174, 4.5 per cent. of the total deaths were of children under the age of one year. Of these under one year of age 12.5 per cent. were under one week.

The following table shows the age distribution of the deaths in the various wards.

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	5-15 years	15-25 years	25-45 years	45-65 years	65-75 years	75 yrs. & over	Total
Easington Lane	2			1	2	1	13	12	15	46
Hetton	4				1	5	9	17	22	58
Hetton Downs	1		1			4	15	17	12	50
Rainton & Moorsley	1			1			6	8	4	20
TOTALS	8		1	2	3	10	43	54	53	174

There were no deaths from "infantile" diarrhoea (under 2 years of age), giving a death rate of 0.00 per 1000 live births

Table showing deaths from Chief Infectious Diseases

Year	All Causes	Typhoid & Paratyphoid	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Diarrhoea under 2 years	Total
1948	221	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
1949	213	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
1950	248	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1951	256	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1952	213	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	2
1953	219	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1954	229	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1955	188	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1956	216	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1957	174	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Causes of Death in Hetton Urban District during 1957

Causes of Death				Male	Female
All Causes				89	85
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...		1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...		
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	
4.	Diphtheria	...	...		
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...		
6.	Meningococcal infection	...	...		
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...		1
8.	Measles	...	...		
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases				1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...		3	8
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus			3	
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...		1
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...		2
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms			12	4
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia				
16.	Diabetes	...	...	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system			8	19
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	15	13
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...		2	
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	7	8
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...		1
22.	Influenza	...	...	2	3
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	6	5
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	11	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system				
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...		2	
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea				1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	4	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	1	
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...			
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...		3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases			4	4
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	2	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	4	2
35.	Suicide	...	...	1	
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...			

Deaths from Tuberculosis

There was one death from pulmonary tuberculosis and none from non-pulmonary tuberculosis during 1957 being equivalent to a death rate per 1000 population of .05 from the pulmonary form and 0.00 from the non-pulmonary.

Comparative Table

Year	No. of deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Death Rate per 1000 Population from Pulmonary T.B. England and Wales	Death Rate per 1000 population from Pulmonary T.B. Hetton Urban District	No. of deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Death Rate per 1000 Population from Non-Pulmonary T.B. England and Wales	Death Rate per 1000 Population from Non-Pulmonary T.B. Hetton Urban District
1948	7	.440	.38	1	.067	.05
1949	5	.403	.27	0	.054	.00
1950	4	.321	.21	1	.043	.05
1951	4	.275	.21	2	.041	.11
1952	7	.212	.38	1	.028	.05
1953	2	.179	.10	1	.022	.05
1954	3	.160	.16	1	.019	.05
1955	3	.131	.16	0	.015	.00
1956	1	.109	.05	0	.012	.00
1957	1	.095	.05	0	.012	.00

Heart Disease

Heart Disease being inclusive of Coronary Disease, Angina, Hypertension with Heart Disease, and Other Heart Diseases, accounted for 45 deaths, being 24 males and 21 females. This is equivalent to 25.86 of the total deaths and a mortality rate of 2.44 per 1,000 population.

Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System

In addition to the above deaths a further 27 being 8 males and 19 females were due to Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, the majority being due to Cerebral Haemorrhage.

The number of deaths in these two groups has decreased, the two groups accounting for the deaths of 71 persons, being 31 males and 40 females as against a total of 111 persons in 1956.

	Males	Females	Totals
Coronary Disease, Angina	14	13	27
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	-	2
Other Heart Diseases	7	8	15
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	8	19	27
	<u>31</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>71</u>

This is equivalent (taking the groups together) to 40.8 per cent. of the total deaths and a Mortality rate of 3.85 per 1000 population.

Cancer

33 deaths - being 18 males and 15 females, were due to cancer. This is equivalent to 13.9 per cent. of the total deaths, or a mortality rate of 1.79 per 1000 population.

The following table shows the number of deaths due to VLNS and CDA and Cancer in the Hetton Urban District, and the death rates from these diseases in the years 1947-1957

Year	Number of Deaths			Death Rate per 1000 Population		
	All Causes	Cancer	VLNS & CDA	All Causes	Cancer	VLNS & CDA
1948	207	34	not available	11.09	1.82	not available
1949	213	39	do.	11.31	2.07	do.
1950	248	27	108	13.27	1.44	5.7
1951	256	27	117	12.84	1.41	6.3
1952	213	29	99	11.62	1.58	5.4
1953	219	39	105	11.9	2.12	5.7
1954	228	39	116	12.3	2.11	6.2
1955	188	40	86	10.2	2.16	4.6
1956	216	30	111	11.17	1.62	6.02
1957	174	33	71	9.4	1.79	3.85

(NOTE - VLNS: Vascular Lesions of Nervous System; and
CDA : Coronary Disease, Angina, Hypertension
with Heart Disease, and Other Heart Diseases)

The following shows the sites of lesion, sex and age
distribution of those who have died during 1956 from cancer
as compiled from local returns.

Site	Males - Ages	Female - Ages
Bronchus, Lungs	53,62,52	
Cervix		72,77
Liver	74,85	84
Stomach	70,61,48,37	78,72,77,82,58, 68,73
Rectum	49,86,67	
Breast		67
Pancreas		77
Colon		70,64
Ileum	45	
Prostate	84,66,69	
Bladder	77	
Inguinal glands		77
Generalised Carcinoma	69	

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious
and other Diseases

During the year 1957, some 356 cases of infectious diseases
including all forms of Tuberculosis, were notified as occurring
in the district. This shows an increase on the figure for 1956 -
which was 81. There were 241 cases of measles and 64 cases of
whooping cough, as compared with 4 measles and 33 whooping
cough in 1956.

School Notification of Disease

No fresh cases of any notifiable disease were notified
from the schools.

Comparison of number of cases of infectious diseases notified during decade 1948-57

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever	119	37	12	11	23	15	7	2	5	
Diphtheria	6	8	2	3	2		1	1	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	1		1	1	1					
Pneumonia	60	56	49	45	60	67	28	11	25	22
Erysipelas	16	4	5	1	1	1	2	1		
Pulmonary) Male	7	10	5	15	7	6	6	6	2	
Tuberculosis) Female	9	7	15	10	3	7	7	5	7	
Non Pulmonary) Male	2	1	1	3	1			1		
Tuberculosis) Female	1	1	3		2	2		1	3	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	2								
Meningococcal infection	2	1		3	2		1			
Typhoid Fever										
Small Pox										
Dysentery		93	2				1			
Measles	251	173	247	315	82	262	5	509	4	2411
Whooping Cough	11	172	27	79	52	81	27	106	33	64
Para-typhoid Fever				1						
Acute Encephalitis										
Acute Poliomyelitis	2		1			2	2	1	1	99
Ac. Polio-Encephalitis										
Food Poisoning										
Malaria										
TOTAL	488	565	370	487	236	444	87	644	81	3566

Tuberculosis

There has been no action taken during 1957, under the Public Health Act (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925 (relating to persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade), or Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936, (relating to the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis).

The following table shows the various age periods for males and females, at which the new cases were notified and when death occurred, as compiled from local statistics.

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2 - 3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
3 - 4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 35	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
35 - 45	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	6	-	3	-	1	-	-

The following table shows the number of new notifications of Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis according to sex for the years 1948-57 inclusive

Year	Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Total All Forms
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
1948	7	9	16	2	1	3	19
1949	10	7	17	1	1	2	19
1950	5	15	20	1	3	4	24
1951	15	10	25	3	-	3	28
1952	7	3	10	1	2	3	13
1953	6	7	13	-	2	2	15
1954	7	7	14	-	-	-	14
1955	6	5	11	1	1	2	13
1956	2	7	9	-	3	3	12
1957	4	6	10	-	3	3	13

Occupation

Of those suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis 1 was a Cadet Nurse, 1 Machinist, 2 Miners, 1 Daily Help, 1 Joiner, 2 children under school age and 1 occupation unknown.

It was most satisfactory to know that there was only one death from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Cases of Infectious Diseases during 1957 - Showing Age Incidence and Distribution

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases Notified												Total Number of Cases Notified in Each Ward					Deaths	Cases Removed to Hospital	Number per 1000 Population		
	At Ages - Years												Hetton	Hetton Downs	Easington Lane	Moorsley and Rainton	Total					
	Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 10	10 - 15	15 - 20	20 - 35	35 - 45	45 - 65	65 and over									Total	
Scarlet Fever				1									1			1						.05
Diphtheria																						
Puerperal Pyrexia																						
Pneumonia	4	1	5	2		2		1	1	5	4	2	27	10	5	9	3	27	11		1.46	
Erysipelas																						
Pulmonary) Male								1	1	1	1		4	2	2			4			.21	
Tuberculosis) Female			2					3			1		6	1	2	3		6	1		.32	
Non-Pulmonary) Male																						
Tuberculosis) Female						2			1				3		1	1	1	3			.16	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum																						
Meningococcal infection											1		1				1	1			.05	
Typhoid Fever																						
Small Pox																						
Dysentery																						
Measles	10	22	32	36	38	100	3						241	74	79	63	25	241		13.08		
Whooping Cough	7	8	5	14	14	16							64	15	13	21	15	64		3.47		
Para-typhoid Fever																						
Acute Encephalitis																						
Acute Poliomyelitis				3		4	2						9		4	2	3	9	1	9	.48	
Acute Polio-Encephalitis																						
Food Poisoning																						
Malaria																						
Totals	21	31	44	56	52	124	5	5	3	6	7	2	356	102	106	100	48	356	13	9	19.32	

The following are particulars of the number and type of houses provided by the Council in pre-war and post-war periods.

The number and types of Pre-war Houses are as follows :-

<u>Estate</u>	<u>A 1</u>	<u>A 2</u>	<u>A 3</u>	<u>A 4</u>	<u>B 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Broomhill	100	30	-	-	-	130
Eppleton	-	10	22	2	-	34
Hetton	-	135	180	-	-	315
Peat Carr	-	167	57	14	-	238
Easington Lane (Old Site)	-	29	154	-	36	219
Prospect	20	63	25	9	-	117
East Rainton	4	152	57	5	-	218
Moorsley	12	-	-	-	-	12
Springwell Terrace	-	24	12	-	-	36
Mill Terrace	-	8	4	-	-	12
	136	618	511	30	36	1331

Houses completed between the end of the War and the 31st December, 1957.

<u>Estate</u>	<u>A 1</u>	<u>A 2</u>	<u>A 3</u>	<u>A 4</u>	<u>Sp. 6 BR.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Caroline Street	-	10	-	-	-	10
Pemberton & Richard Streets	16	-	-	-	-	16
Peat Carr	-	54	70	2	-	126
The Lawns, Eas. Lane	24	-	-	-	-	24
Prospect	2	59	96	8	-	165
Moorsley	18	32	56	4	-	110
Moorsley (55 Houses)	12	34	9	-	-	55
Low Downs	-	36	36	4	-	76
Gargles Farm Estate	58	124	80	6	1	269
Brickgarth	24	58	31	-	-	113
Murton Lane	4	6	-	-	-	10
Mill Terrace	-	2	-	-	-	2
East Rainton	-	12	2	-	-	14
Shaws Row	4	14	10	-	-	28
Derwent Street	10	29	13	-	-	52
Hetton House Grounds	-	-	1	-	-	1
	172	470	404	24	1	1071

Houses completed during 1957

<u>Site</u>	<u>A 1</u>	<u>A 2</u>	<u>A 3</u>	<u>Total</u>
Derwent Street	10	19	10	39
Prospect Estate	2	1	-	3
Hetton House Grounds	-	-	1	1
	<u>12</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>43</u>

1. Summary of work done by the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year 1957

New Houses Completed during the year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority	43	-	43
(b) By any other Housing Authority	-	-	-
(c) By Private persons	-	3	3

Total No. of Inhabited Houses - 5472

2. CLOSING AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES

A. Formal Action

(i)	No. of houses demolished during year as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action	241
(ii)	No. of houses closed but not demolished as a result of formal action	21
(iii)	No. of houses in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses demolition of which temporarily postponed	184
(iv)	No. of houses in use as temporary accommodation	-

Informal Action

- (i) No. of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above

RECONDITIONING AND REPAIRS

No. of houses made fit during year by procedure under Housing Acts (excluding temporary accommodation) or Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|---|----|
| (a) As a result of informal action | 40 |
| (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice | - |
| (c) By Local Authority in default of owners | - |

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS : HOUSING ACT, 1949

No. of
separate houses

- | | |
|--|----|
| (a) Applications submitted to Local Authority | 13 |
| (b) Applications rejected by Local Authority | - |
| (c) Total No. of applications approved since the inception of scheme | 67 |

GENERAL SUMMARY.

	No. of Inspec- tions	No. of Informal Notices Served	No. of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice	Legal Proceed- ings and General Remarks
Housing :					
Public Health and Housing Acts	183	62	-	40	
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences :					
Insufficient	-	-	-	-	
Defective	26	8	-	8	
Drainage	76	11	-	11	
Water Supply	9	1	-	1	
Food Premises	312	14	-	14	
Shops Act	72	1	-	1	
Dairies	-	-	-	-	
Slaughter Houses :					
Public	-	-	-	-	
Private	97	4	-	4	
Tents, Vans etc.	-	-	-	-	
Offensive Trades	-	-	-	-	
Factories and					
Workplaces	65	2	-	2	
Keeping of Animals	14	6	-	4	
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	-	-	-	-	
Offensive Accumulations	36	1	-	1	
Smoke Nuisances	58	1	-	-	
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	211	27	-	27	
Totals	1159	138	-	113	

Ashpits converted into water-closet -
 Ash-closets converted in water-closets -
 Total number of water closets in district ... 5919
 Total number of ash-closets in district ... 125
 Total number of ashpit-privies in district ... 17

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE - Progress Report on Schemes in Hand

Name of Scheme and Area to be Served	Water or Sewerage	Date of Ministry of Health Inquiry or Investigation	Estimated Cost	Date of Ministry of Health Approval	Date Commenced	Date Completed	If in Progress indicate stage	Remarks
Sewerage Pumping Station, Eilemore Vale	Sewerage	-	£2,539	19/10/56	Dec., 1956	Sept. 1957		

A scheme should be considered "in hand" once it has been submitted to the County Council for consideration. Other schemes should be included if there is some actual progress to report during year.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

Water Supply

The district is supplied with water from three sources. Hetton, Hetton Downs, and Easington Lane Wards are supplied by the Council's own undertaking which is derived from water pumped at Eppleton Colliery and stored in a reservoir there, a further storage reservoir being sited at Easington Lane, this being necessary to serve certain higher portions of that area. This supply is being supplemented to a large extent by water taken in bulk from the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company. The Council's own supply, as it is obtained from deep lime stone strata, is generally pure but very hard, and both as regards quality and quantity it was possible to maintain a satisfactory supply throughout the year, except for a period in July when the results of bacteriological examination indicated some degree of contamination. Immediate steps were taken to remedy this situation and the results of samples subsequently taken were satisfactory.

East and Middle Rainton areas are supplied direct by the Durham County Water Board, and a satisfactory supply was also obtained here throughout the year unaffected by any drought rationing scheme, although it is customary for the Board, when the need arises, to put such a scheme into operation.

The Moorsley area is served by the National Coal Board, water being pumped to a reservoir at High Moorsley and this feeding High and Low Moorsley by gravity. The National Coal Board also supply certain outlying farms. This water was also found to be satisfactory in quality and quantity during the year.

Weekly samples of water are taken from the Moorsley and East Rainton supplies and also those parts of Easington Lane and Hetton which are served by water purchased from the Sunderland & South Shields Water Company by the Health Department, who also take periodical samples of this water for chemical analysis. The Surveyor's Department also take samples monthly from that part of the supply served by the Council's own water undertaking and the National Coal Board's Scientific Department carry out sampling of their parts of the supply, all these samples being submitted for bacteriological examination and additional samples

taken for chemical analysis at approximately three monthly intervals.

The widely differing characteristics of the four waters supplied to the area can be seen from the table hereunder which sets out results of a typical chemical analysis from each of the supplies concerned, namely :-

	Hetton U.D.C.	N.C.B.	Sunderland and South Shields Water Co.	Durham County Water Board
	P a r t s P e r M i l l i o n			
Total Solids dried at 180° C.	1020	610	160	100
Chlorine as chlorides	55	33.7	8.9	8.9
Free ammonia	None	Trace	Trace	Trace
Albuminoid ammonia	0.02	Trace	0.02	Trace
Nitrogen as nitrates	1.10	3.20	0.40	0.50
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 80° F.)	0.6	2.3	3.5	4.6
Total hardness	655	459	135	70
Permanent hardness	395	375	62	54
Temporary hardness	260	84	73	16
Lead & Copper	None	None	None	None
Iron	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1
Appearance and colour	Exceedingly pale yellow & clear.	Exceedingly pale yellow & clear	Clear & exceedingly pale yellow	Clear & pale yellow
Smell & Taste	Sat.	Sat.	Sat.	Sat.
Microscopical examination of deposit	Sat.	Sat.	Sat.	Sat.
pH Value	7.2	7.6	7.4	7.1

All bacteriological examinations are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Sunderland, free of charge, and acknowledgement should be made of the ready co-operation and advice given by Dr. Crone whenever required.

Samples submitted by the Health Department for bacteriological examination during 1957 numbered 159, 6 of these being sub-standard.

Drainage and Sewerage

With one exception all sewers throughout the area drain to the Council's Glebe Sewage Works at Rainton Bridge. These works were constructed in 1937 on modern lines and continued to function satisfactorily throughout the year. In conjunction with housing developments, extensions to soil and surface water sewers were laid and the construction of a pumping station to deal with the sewerage from Elemore Colliery was completed in September of the year under review. This work abated a very serious nuisance which had existed for many years as the area was previously served by septic tanks which were in very bad condition and caused considerable pollution of adjoining land.

The sewage works and sewers were subject to the routine half-yearly treatment for the destruction of rats as in previous years.

During the year under review it was necessary to serve 11 informal notices requiring the remedy of defects in house drains, in no case was it necessary to follow up an informal notice with a statutory notice.

Closet Accommodation

At the end of 1957 sanitary conveniences serving houses in the Urban district were of the following types namely :-

Water Closets	...	...	...	5,919
Ash-closets	...	...	...	125
Ash-pit Privies	...	...	...	17
Chemical Closets	...	...	...	3

It may be said that practically all the ash-closets and privies listed above serve houses which are either subject to Demolition or Clearance Orders or scheduled to be so dealt with in the near future making a conversion of the privy uneconomical. A number of ash-closets were demolished when the houses they serve were dealt with under slum clearance action but there still remains a very small number of privies attached to outlying farms, some of which it is hoped to deal with by installing chemical closets and some by the provision of a septic tank.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The work of refuse collection and disposal was, as in previous years, carried out by direct labour under the supervision of the Health Department. The service employs four lorries with drivers and eight fillers operating a relay system to deal with the collection of house refuse, and an additional lorry and driver which are employed part-time on the collection of trade refuse and salvage, mainly from business premises, the driver also deals with the sorting and baling of this. The system works well, the lorries generally being able to operate a shuttle service to and from the tips ensuring that the fillers are constantly employed, although in some scattered areas it is still necessary to split up the team and use the slower method of working. The number of premises to be dealt with has admittedly remained fairly static in recent years but the work of the collectors has steadily increased owing to the various factors which have arisen in the lay-out of post war housing estates. These invariably create difficulties in refuse removal as bins are having to be carried for increasing distances and although the crews are provided with wheel bin carriers numerous steps which have to be negotiated prevent these being used to the best advantage.

A scheme is in operation for the renewal of defective ashbins and the Scavenging staff daily report any bins which require attention, when the owner of the property is given the opportunity of purchasing a new standard bin at a reasonable cost, the average price of bin supplied during the year being 30/-. There are, therefore, very few dilapidated bins to be seen in the district. The number of bins renewed by this method (apart from Council houses) during the year under review was 69. Unfortunately it is found that more difficulty is experienced with regard to the renewal of bins in Council houses, from time to time a time lag occurs before the new bin is supplied, it is often found that occupiers are without a bin for some weeks before renewal is affected. Particular attention is paid to the correct treatment of bins by the workmen, as rough handling considerably shortens the life of the modern bin which is not generally of substantial construction. Unfortunately there is a minority of householders who persist in putting slops into the bin and the coagulated contents being difficult to dislodge, the scavengers naturally get into the habit of vigorously banging the

bin on the side of the lorry causing denting and concavity of the sides. An ashbin size 24" x 18" is standardised throughout the area but even this large size is found in many cases to be inadequate to store a weeks refuse. Despite the fact that modernisation schemes have been carried out in a very large number of the older Colliery houses including the installation of modern fireplaces, refuse yeils from the houses have not appreciably decreased, this is largely attributable to the general supply of concessionary coal which contains a large proportion of stone, which is almost invariably cast upon the street before the coals are stored. This stone cannot be considered in any sense household refuse and the collection of large quantities of incombustible refuse of this nature poses a problem from time to time.

A salvage scheme was in operation during the year but this dealt only with the collection of waste paper as the collection of other materials which were dealt with during the War years was found to be uneconomic. The work is carried out in conjunction with the trade refuse collection, the shop waste providing mainly wrapping paper, and containers. A nominal charge is made for collection and a large and increasing number of the tradespeople in the area have taken advantage of the scheme. In view of the steadily diminishing prices received for paper waste, it is extremely doubtful whether collection and handling would be an economical project if the scheme was not helped out by the contribution from the trade refuse collection. Waste paper and cartons are baled and marketed and during 1957, 21 3 cwts. 6 qrs. were disposed of providing an income of £147 7s. Od..

The house refuse is disposed of by tipping, a small quantity of soil is obtained from time to time for covering but it is virtually impossible to obtain sufficient to exercise full control. The regular use of a tractor and scraper to consolidate and level the surface has been found very effective and it has always been possible to keep the tips nuisance free, with the result that large areas have been rapidly re-claimed and surprisingly good crops obtained, despite the poor manurial value of the surface covering.

During 1957 tips were in use at the Hazard Colliery, this tip covering an extensive area amongst old colliery spoil heaps has been in use for many years, Moorsley Quarry which has taken a very great quantity of refuse and was at the end of the year

rapidly approaching completion, the intention being to eventually utilise the site as a playground, and a Quarry in Elemore Woods which was being filled at the request of the National Coal Board in an attempt to provide support to faults in the Quarry walls which were causing subsidence. This tip is likely to provide useful tipping space for at least another two years. We were fortunate during the year in having no immediate shortage of tipping area, although the acquisition of sites sufficiently remote from houses to be nuisance free is likely to become a very serious problem in the future. The position during the year under review was that we probably had too many tips in hand at the same time, as it is much preferable to concentrate on one particular site and get it filled, levelled and re-claimed rather than disperse refuse over a number of sites. Unfortunately we have of course to meet the wishes of the owners of the sites in this respect, as tips are generally offered free on the understanding the filling is proceeded with expeditiously. As in previous years, the greatest trouble experienced in keeping tips tidy was caused by builders and contractors indiscriminately dumping loads of rubbish, frequently on the surface which had been freshly levelled, causing an obstruction to further use of the tipping face. Therefore, from time to time it was necessary to forbid the use of the tips, but unfortunately there must be some outlet for rubbish of this nature and therefore, restricted use of a certain portion of each tip is allowed, a moderate charge being made for each load of rubbish dumped.

A daily check is kept on all loads collected but these, owing to the lack of weighbridge facilities are not weighed. The service, however, during 1957 dealt with an average weekly total of 113 loads, this being two loads more than the total for 1956. The number of premises which were dealt with by the service during the year was 5855, the approximate cost per house being £1.8

The Shops Act

The Chief Public Health Inspector also carries out the duties of Inspector under the Shops Act and all business premises received regular routine visits and inspections throughout the year. The application of the Food Hygiene

Regulations has resulted in a considerable amount of work being carried out in the shops which, whilst it was primarily intended to improve the hygienic handling of food, has also resulted in improved conditions for the employees on the premises. The larger shops are all equipped with satisfactory sanitary accommodation, rest room and washing facilities for their staff, and all food shops have been provided with a constant supply of hot water.

The enforcement of closing hours provided no difficulty and no complaints were received regarding the working hours of assistants, in fact, it is generally found that the shopkeepers observe even shorter opening hours than those prescribed. Four exemption certificates under the Act are in force with respect to small lock-up shops where it is impossible to provide sanitary accommodation on the premises, three being situated in Easington Lane and one in Hetton, in every case however, hot water supply and washing facilities have been provided and public conveniences are reasonably accessible.

Tents, Vans, Sheds and Camping Sites

There are no recognised camping sites in the area and no trouble was experienced during the year with regard to temporary structures of this nature being occupied for dwelling purposes. Two sites within the Urban District are, however, occupied as fairgrounds by showmen. Whilst they are so used they are supervised to ensure that adequate arrangements were maintained with regard to water supply, sanitary accommodation and refuse disposal. The occupiers were generally extremely co-operative and no difficulty was experienced with the sites which, when vacated, were always left in a satisfactory condition. A little trouble was experienced at times during the seasonal passage through the district of gypsy caravens, which were not generally occupied by true gypsies, but itinerant hawkers. Only restricted powers are available for dealing with them but it was always found possible to get them moving on within a reasonable time.

Swimming Baths and Pools

There is a complete lack of such an amenity within the district. For some years a natural pool was used at Lyons Colliery but partly from lack of demand and partly no doubt, owing to the difficulties of keeping it reasonably clean, it fell into disuse. There would appear, however, to be a definite demand for swimming facilities but an open air pool, owing to the prevalent climate, would only have a very restricted use, therefore the provision of a covered swimming bath which could be used for other purposes and become a source of revenue out of season appears to be the only solution. The expense of erecting such a building and maintaining it thereafter would be very considerable and it is extremely doubtful whether the project would be self-supporting.

Schools

A very high standard of hygiene was maintained in all the schools in the area throughout the year and it was not necessary during 1957 to close any school owing to the prevalence of infectious disease, nor was the operation of any scheme for the treatment of scabies required. The Health Department maintains close contact with the teachers, however, and are indebted to them for their ready co-operation at all times when inquiries regarding the welfare of the pupils had to be made.

The Central School Kitchen was regularly inspected and it was found here also that a very high standard of hygiene was maintained.

Public Houses, Halls, and Cinemas

Premises of this nature are inspected at regular intervals and it can be said that they are satisfactorily equipped with sanitary accommodation almost without exception. Public houses in the area are now well supplied with washing facilities in the bars and the general standard of hygiene maintained is very high. A good number of improvements were, however, carried out during the year in connection with modernisation schemes and additional ladies conveniences were provided to two public houses at the request of the Department. Certificates are issued regarding sanitary conditions found at all licenced houses for the guidance of the Justices at the Brewster Sessions and the issue of an adverse certificate by the Department would immediately create a difficulty in obtaining the renewal of the licence.

Food Inspection

The majority of the food shops in the area comprise small general businesses, the proprietor living in the house attached, more often than not only a single assistant is employed and there is no difficulty with regard to sanitary accommodation and other amenities for the workers. Improvements continued to be carried out during the year in connection with the Food Hygiene Regulations and all food premises complied with the requirements regarding provision of hot water and washing facilities for staff. The larger shops are all equipped with rest rooms with provision for the storage of assistants' clothing etc.

The food shops are subject to regular inspection and a large amount of tinned goods are examined, it being necessary to condemn a good quantity as being unfit for human consumption. Condemned goods of this nature, the majority of which are in a very offensive condition and have no salvage value, are collected and disposed of on the refuse tips.

The following table shows the number and type of premises where food is sold and prepared.

School Kitchens	...	...	...	1
Colliery Canteens	...	...	...	2
Cafes or Snack Bars	...	...	...	5
Fish and Chips	...	...	...	11
Butchers	...	...	...	16
Fruiterers	...	...	...	10
Bakers & Confectioners	...	...	...	17
Grocery	...	...	...	30
General	...	...	...	31
Ice Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	3
Premises registered for the sale of ice cream	...	...	...	54

There are 13 private slaughterhouses in the area and the Public Health Inspectors examine all animals slaughtered for human consumption. Despite the number and scattered nature of the slaughterhouses it was found possible to examine every animal although owing to labour difficulties weekend slaughter is very prevalent and to maintain one hundred per cent.

inspection necessitates a considerable amount of overtime working on the part of the staff. A very good class of animal is killed and the incidence of disease found has, in recent years, become increasingly smaller, but where it is necessary to condemn carcasses and edible organs they are treated with a strong green dye then disposed of to a firm of By-Product Manufacturers who guarantee that the meat is not used for human consumption.

A very high standard of hygienic conditions is maintained in the slaughterhouses bringing about a marked improvement in the condition and keeping qualities of the meat compared to that put out under wartime conditions of centralised slaughtering.

The future of private slaughtering has, of course, in recent years, been very much in the melting pot and although works of improvements are steadily going on, major alterations have not been encouraged. The majority of the butchers, however, are anxious to improve their premises and would, without doubt, be prepared to carry out extensive schemes of reconstruction if they were assured of a reasonable lease of life.

The position with regard to the shortage of trained slaughtermen is gradually resolving and the majority of butchers appear to have been able to find suitable staff, but the shortage is still evident, and suitable recruits are not coming forward in sufficient numbers.

All slaughtermen receive annual licences from the Council and at the end of the year under review the number holding licences was 51.

The following table gives particulars of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

Milk and Dairies

The distribution of liquid milk in the area is in the hands of two organisations, namely, the Houghton Dairymens Association who were originally formed from existing milk retailers and

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	2071	132	1	3504	1763	-
Number inspected	2071	132	1	3504	1763	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	1	2	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	663	9	-	64	36	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	32.0	6.81	-	1.85	2.15	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	1	-	-	2	-
Carcases of which some part of organ was condemned	31	30	-	-	11	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.49	23.48	-	-	.73	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and total condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of meat condemned 2 tons 6 cwt. 0 qrs. 1 st. 1 lb.

farmers in the area who market Pasteurised, Channel Island Pasteurised, and Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised and also retail a large amount of Raw Tuberculin Tested Milk. The Association had originally carried out pasteurisation at their own plant in Houghton-le-Spring but this was closed down and the pasteurised milk they market is now processed by the Milk Marketing Board.

The East Durham Co-operative Dairies Ltd. work through the local Co-operative Societies and distribute Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk only. They have a modern milk depot equipped with cold storage chambers which is situated in the Hetton Downs Ward, where bottled milk is stored overnight before delivery, and a subsidiary depot in Easington Lane Ward which is not equipped with cold storage but provides reasonably satisfactory accommodation for the short period in which the milk is held therein.

Both these organisations also retail a good amount of bottled sterilised milk and bottled orange juice. To meet the increasing demand for sterilised milk, a good number of the smaller general shops also retail it, 40 being registered for this purpose at the end of the year.

During the year under review the Health Department, who take weekly samples from all milk retailed in the area, submitted 297 samples to the Public Health Laboratory, Sunderland, where examinations are carried out free of charge, only 7 of these proved to be in some degree unsatisfactory. The raw Tuberculin Tested milk is also examined, as a routine precaution, for the presence of Br. abortus, this following the discovery of the organism in the milk the previous year, but the milk was consistently found to be free of this organism.

Ice Cream

There are only three premises in the Urban Area at which ice cream is manufactured, two being situated in the Easington Lane Ward and one at East Rainton. The establishments are equipped with plant capable of producing ice cream in compliance with the heat treatment regulations and the premises are inspected at regular intervals. The majority of retailers

however, find it more convenient to purchase pre-packed ice cream in bulk from the factory and a large and increasing number of confectioners and general shops have installed refrigerators from which they retail this. These premises are all registered and inspected at regular intervals and numbered 54 at the end of the year. The commodity which they retail is supplied by large wholesale manufacturers and samples taken almost invariably give satisfactory results, in fact 77 samples of ice cream were taken during 1957 and only 3 of these proved to be unsatisfactory. In addition 3 samples of ice cream lollies were taken and all of these proved to be satisfactory. There is always a possibility of retailers carrying over surplus summer stock through the Autumn and Winter and some retailers also fail to understand the function of their refrigerators which they operate at widely varying temperatures or often switch off on economical grounds thus endangering the contents. The installation of refrigerators in shops has also caused the increasing sale of other frozen foods. In connection with this during the year, it was found necessary to draw the attention of shopkeepers to the requirements of the Sunday Trading Regulations as many of the commodities so stocked were articles prohibited for sale on Sundays under the regulations.

A considerable amount of ice cream is hawked by itinerant vendors from motor vans, the Health Department has no knowledge of, or control over the manufacture of the ice cream sold in this way and extreme difficulty is found in obtaining samples at times convenient for transmission to the laboratory.

Factories and Workshops

Regular inspections are carried out of these premises and it was found that generally a good standard of hygiene was maintained throughout the year. It was necessary, however, to serve some informal notices resulting in improvements being carried out with regard to cleansing and floor drainage, closet accommodation and ventilation, and provision of means of escape in case of fire.

The following table gives particulars of inspections carried out by the Health Department and the results obtained.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to Health
(including Inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		Occupiers Prosecuted
		Inspect-ions	Written Notices	
(i) Factories in which Sec. 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	17	9	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities	45	49	31	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	5	4	-
Total	56	71	44	-

2. Defects found

	Number of cases in which defects were Found			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	19	19	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	1	1	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	8	8	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)				
Insufficient	5	5	-	-
Unsuitable or defective	9	9	-	-
Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork)	1	1	1	-
Total	44	44	1	-

Bakehouses

At the end of 1957 there were six bakehouses operating in the Urban Area, two of these were well equipped factory bakehouses, the remainder operated only to a minor extent mainly for the production of confectionery and pies, and in addition three general shops were registered for the manufacture of pies only. The premises are regularly inspected and a highly satisfactory standard of cleanliness is generally maintained.

Eradication of Bed Bugs and Vermin

It was necessary to take action for the eradication of bed bugs and other vermin in the under mentioned premises, namely :-

Council Houses	...	...	...	28
Private Houses	...	...	...	18

and in addition one lot of infectious bedding was destroyed.

Infestations with vermin have been steadily on the decline in recent years and in the majority of cases the vermin dealt with was black beetles, a small minority of heavy infestations by bed bugs were, however, found some of which only came to light in the course of modernisation work carried out on the older Council houses. It was found possible to successfully deal with beetle infestations by using a powder made up of pyrethrum for immediate "knock down" effect and D.D.T., the latter ingredient remaining potent for a considerable time to provide a lengthy protection. The results obtained were very satisfactory and in some cases spectacular, but in the older houses the lodgement of the vermin is so deep seated that the co-operation of the tenant is essential, and periodic treatment necessary to maintain complete clearance.

Bed bug infestation presents a more difficult problem although fortunately it is becoming increasingly rare. Infestations are primarily dealt with by fumigation, gamexane being found most effective for this purpose, thus killing off

adult vermin and rendering the premises reasonably safe for householders or workmen to proceed with the stripping of walls etc. which is insisted upon in every case, in fact it is often found necessary at times to remove woodwork which is dealt with by the thorough application of a blow lamp. The second treatment is then carried out by spraying to deal with vermin which have subsequently incubated, followed by a final treatment to ensure complete clearance. The co-operation of the occupiers is essential, they are asked to keep the walls stripped at least six months after treatment and to report immediately if isolated bugs are subsequently found, such stray survivors will rapidly recommence the whole cycle of reinfestation. Effective fumigation is very liable to cause vermin to migrate particularly in the older property where ready access is available from house to house, and steps are therefore always taken to inspect the adjoining houses to ensure that this has not occurred.

Rodent Control

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 is administered by the Health Department so far as surface infestation is concerned and they therefore dealt with infestations arising in dwelling houses, business premises, refuse tips and agricultural land, the Highways Department undertaking the treatment of sewers. Dwellinghouses are treated free of charge, the cost of any work carried out on business premises or agricultural land is recovered on a time and material basis. A very high proportion of the farmers in the area are, however, under contract to the Ministry of Agriculture who deal with infestations on the land and in buildings as they arise. Considering the importance of the service, the actual cost is negligible as the preliminary survey work and treatment is carried out by the Health Inspectors with the assistance of a part-time workman who operates under their supervision. Constant observation is kept on the Council's own property, refuse tips etc., the cost of this work being met by the local authority.

During the year under review the principal poison bait used was based on Warfarin. This has been found to be highly effective, safe and convenient in use, and more readily

taken by the vermin than the older poisons such as zinc phosphide, red squills and arsenic, although these latter are still occasionally used when special circumstances demand it. Gassing with "cymag" gas is also occasionally carried out on refuse tips and open sites when weather conditions made this practicable and safe.

The sewers are periodically treated by the workmen of the Highways Department and it is extremely important that such treatment should be carried out regularly at the correct intervals to suit the peak breeding seasons. It is found that when this work is delayed for any reason there is a heavy build up in the underground rat population which results in a spate of complaints regarding surface infestation traceable to the heavily infested condition of the drains. In this respect also, quite often, almost inexplicable infestations occur in new Council houses, particularly where these have been built on re-developed areas and the old drainage systems have not been taken out or effectively sealed off.

Atmospheric Pollution

Considerable improvement has been effected in atmospheric conditions during the year. Apart from the fact that a large proportion of the population are in receipt of concessionary coal and domestic smoke contributes to a considerable extent, the principal factors affecting atmospheric conditions are the Colliery spoil heaps, there being three active heaps situated at Eppleton Colliery, Nicholsons Pit, East Rainton, and Elemore Colliery.

Refuse from Eppleton Colliery is now disposed of in a most effective manner, soil being excavated and pushed back, waste then being spread in shallow layers, levelled and covered with the soil, the whole being well consolidated by the passage of the dumpers engaged in the work and this gave rise to no nuisance whatsoever, although regular tests are made to check the internal temperature of the heap.

The heap at Nicholsons Pit, although this is generally composed of highly combustible material has also shown a

steady improvement. Twin conical heaps are in use and an adequate supply of water is available and more or less constant spraying is in operation.

The heap at Elemore Colliery is also conical and a difficult type of heap to control. An adequate supply of water is also available here and spraying was carried out at intervals but not so consistently as the circumstances demanded, and towards the end of the year under review there were indications that the deep seated fire in this heap was likely to give rise to a considerable nuisance. In connection with this Colliery also there is some serious nuisance at times from dust and grit, the former being due to the use of the dry cleaner which, although everything possible has been done to effect improvement, appears virtually impossible to operate without some nuisance from dust. The furnace chimney also emits a considerable amount of grit, very heavy deposits being found in the immediate vicinity at times. There is no doubt that this trouble is principally due to inefficient stoking and the type of fuel used, and the provision of a grit arrestor would bring about some improvement. It is anticipated, however, that within the reasonably near future this Colliery will be electrified providing a solution to the whole problem.

The Department would again like to acknowledge the very valuable aid given by Mr. C. Bride, Alkali Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government who regularly inspects the heaps in company with the Chief Public Health Inspector, his technical advice and help proved of great assistance to the Council in dealing with problems of this nature.

Marine Store Dealers

There are only two marine store dealers registered in the Urban area and regular inspections are carried out of their premises, both dealers are in a very small way of business and their premises give rise to little nuisance, although from time to time cleaning up has been necessary, particularly of deposits of broken glass which could prove dangerous to

trespassing children, who incidently, have carried out the breakages and other damage themselves. There are a good number of itinerant rag and bone dealers who come from outside the area and generally frequent the housing sites. They are also kept under observation, mainly with a view to detecting offences in respect of exchanging forbidden articles with juveniles for rags etc.

